



UNION SANITARY DISTRICT

PROTECTING

THE TRI-CITIES AND SAN FRANCISCO BAY

FALL 2017



USD plant 1964



USD plant today

MASTER PLANNING:

USD PREPARES FOR THE FUTURE

Wastewater treatment improves water quality and protects public health for the Tri-City community by reducing harmful toxins that pollute rivers, lakes, and oceans. Wastewater travels from households, businesses, and industries through public sewer lines before entering the treatment system. USD is responsible for operating and maintaining over \$657 million worth of assets, which include a 33-acre treatment plant, seven pump stations, and 819 miles of conveyance pipelines. USD must plan carefully to maintain, rehabilitate, and replace infrastructure in a way that delivers stable rates and the best value for our customers while maintaining compliance with increasingly stringent treatment standards.

Aging infrastructure is a nationwide concern. In 2017, the American Society of Civil Engineers gave the United States an overall infrastructure grade of D+. Although USD's infrastructure is well-maintained, portions of the treatment plant located in Union City date back to the 1960's. Major components of the plant are coming to the end of their useful life, will be unable to treat wastewater to meet future government requirements, or do not meet current seismic standards.

USD is developing a Plant Master Plan to serve as a roadmap for the next 20 to 40 years, with options that range from upgrading existing facilities to constructing new treatment processes and buildings. Long-term planning will assess future regulatory requirements, plant space and capacity needs, and site layout options. The plan will help us determine locations of new treatment facilities, and prioritize project construction for maximum efficiency and cost-control. The District's Master Plan is anticipated to be completed by Summer of 2018.



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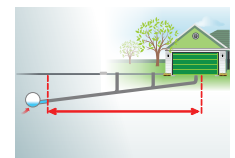
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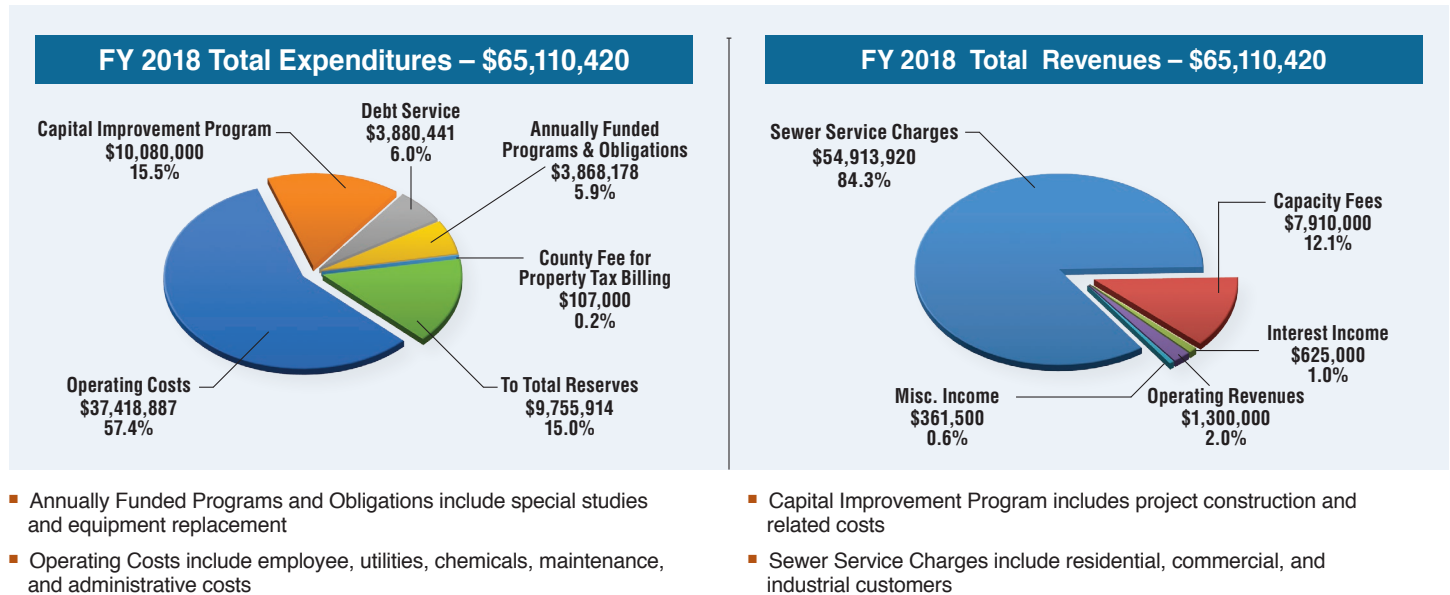
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BUDGET IN BRIEF

USD provides wastewater collection, treatment, and disposal services to a population of over 350,000 in the Tri-Cities. The District manages a large collection of facilities that includes 819 miles of sewer lines, seven pump stations, and buildings and equipment at our 33-million gallon per day treatment plant. Through careful fiscal planning, USD safeguards these public assets and efficiently uses its resources to provide award-winning service at low rates.



COURTESY RATE ADJUSTMENT NOTICE: FISCAL YEAR 2018 SEWER SERVICE RATES

On January 25, 2016, the District's Board of Directors held a public hearing and adopted Ordinance 31.39, which established sewer service charges for Fiscal Years 2017 through 2021. Prior to the public hearing, the District participated in two public meetings and mailed a notice of the public hearing and informational brochure to all property owners in our service area.

Annual Sewer Service Charges are placed on the Alameda County property tax statement. The charges appear on the tax statement as a single line item and are listed as "Union Sewer Svc". Sewer Service Charges are not a property tax and are not related to the assessed value of a property. They represent a charge for a service provided. USD includes the annual charges on property tax statements to save the administrative cost of generating and mailing separate invoices. The table above depicts last year's rates and the new rates for FY 2018. If you have questions, call USD at (510) 477-7500 or email to: rates@unionsanitary.ca.gov

	Last Year's Rate FY 2017	This Year's Rate FY 2018
Residential (\$ per Dwelling Unit)		
Single Family Residences	\$380.05	\$393.35
Multiple Family Residences	\$329.50	\$341.03
Commercial (\$ per 1,000 gals)		
Strong	\$9.59	\$9.93
Moderate	\$4.74	\$4.90
Weak	\$3.95	\$4.08
Fast-Food Restaurant	\$8.97	\$9.29
Full-Service Restaurant	\$11.89	\$12.30
Industrial		
Volume (\$/1,000 gals)	\$2.23	\$2.31
COD (\$/1,000 lbs)	\$296.05	\$306.41
Suspended Solids (\$/1,000 lbs)	\$688.62	\$712.72
Minimum Charge for non-residential customers	\$329.50	\$341.03

JOIN OUR 100TH BIRTHDAY CELEBRATION AT USD'S

CENTENNIAL OPEN HOUSE

SATURDAY, MAY 19, 2018 10 A.M. TO 2 P.M.

Mark your calendar and join our 100th birthday party at our Union City treatment plant! We'll share family-friendly activities, interactive demonstrations, refreshments, giveaways, and plant tours at this **FREE** event. Our 2015 Open House was a smash hit with customers, and we're busy planning even more fun ways for kids and adults to learn how USD protects public health and the environment. We have dozens of buildings, thousands of pieces of equipment, and remarkable information to share. We're excited to spend our 100th birthday with you!



Family fun at our 2015 Open House

SEWER PROBLEMS? CALL USD AT (510) 477-7500



We respond to customer requests for assistance 24/7 every day.

For your safety, NEVER open a sewer manhole! Our manhole covers are very heavy; lifting them could hurt your back. Our trained employees have the safety equipment necessary to check manholes and make sure there are no dangerous gases present.

DID YOU KNOW?

- **Wipes Clog Pipes!** Those "flushable" wipes aren't so flushable. They may flush down your toilet, but wipes don't break down like toilet paper. They can bunch up to clog not only your pipes, but also our pumps. Only human waste and toilet paper should go in your toilet.
- **Your Toilet Is Not a Trashcan:** Your toilet is not the spot for things like dental floss, hair, or cigarette butts. Sanitary products, cotton swabs, bandages, paper towels, diapers, wipes, and facial tissues are made of materials that don't break down like toilet paper. They can cause your sewer lateral to back up and impact our sewer mains. Keep all of these items out of your toilet.
- **Keep Fats, Oils, and Grease (FOG) OUT of Your Drains!** They can solidify and cause messy backups into your home, onto streets, and down storm drains, where they can reach our local creeks and the bay. **COOL IT, CAN IT,** and **TRASH IT** instead: Let FOG cool down, then pour it into an empty soup or pet food can with some absorbent paper and discard in your trash.

"Like" USD
on Facebook



USD posts tips for keeping your sewer healthy and protecting the environment on our Facebook page, plus news about our activities in the Tri-Cities. **Follow us for online info!**

UNION SANITARY DISTRICT

5072 Benson Road
Union City, CA 94587-2508

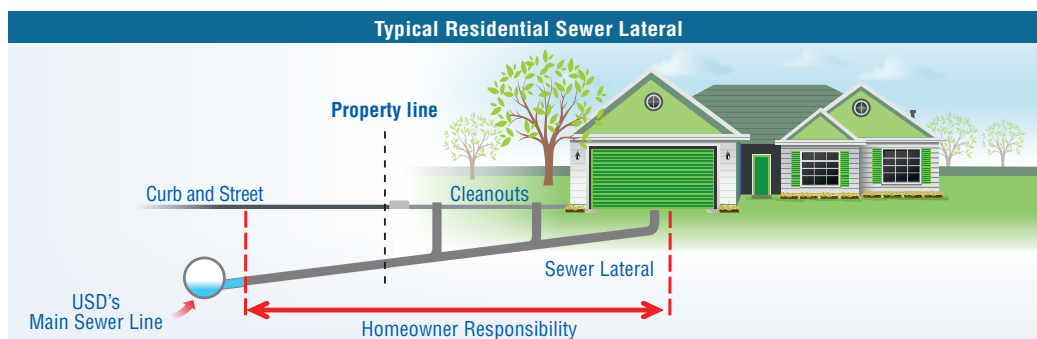
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ECR WSS

KEEP YOUR SEWER LATERAL HEALTHY AND SAVE MONEY

Your sewer lateral is a pipe that connects the plumbing system in your residence or business to USD's main sewer line. **Property owners are responsible for maintenance, repair, or replacement of their entire sewer lateral up to its connection to USD's main line.** This includes portions located under sidewalks and streets (see exhibit below). Proper upkeep of your sewer lateral can help you avoid costly and messy backups, as well as sewer lateral repair or replacement. Some tips for a healthy lateral:

- **Only human waste, soaps, toilet paper, and food ground in a garbage disposal should go into your sewer line:** Some food wastes such as coffee grounds and eggshells can cause buildup in sewer lines even after grinding in a disposal. These are better off in your household compost bin.
- **Dispose of these in your trash:** Cotton swabs, bandages, wipes (even those labeled "flushable"), grease, and other items can clog pipes and cause backups.
- **Maintain your lateral:** Cracks or loose joints in your sewer may attract roots that can enter and clog your lateral. Periodic video inspection and cleaning by a licensed plumber can help you find roots and other problems that, left unattended, could require costly repairs.



For more tips about keeping your lateral healthy, check our website at www.unionsanitary.ca.gov or call us at (510) 477-7500.

Property owners are responsible for the entire lateral from the building to where it meets USD's main sewer line. USD takes care of the rest.

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Fremont

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James Schofield
Collection Services Manager

Robert Simonich
Fabrication, Maintenance, & Construction Manager

UNION SANITARY DISTRICT'S MISSION:

To safely and responsibly collect and treat wastewater, and to recover resources from process waste streams, while protecting human health and improving the environment in a way that benefits the Tri-Cities and all USD stakeholders.